RABBI NORMAN R. PATZ. D.D.
הרב נחמיה פייץ

April 21, 1999
Iyar 5, 5759

The Honorable Donald Bradley
Council President
City of Newark
920 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Mr. Bradley:

[handwritten signature]

Because of your interest in the benediction I presented at the city's Twelfth Annual Holocaust
Observance, I have had it typed up for you. Here it is:

> Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us? Why do we deal
> treacherously, brother against brother, profaning the name of God?   (Malachi 2:10).
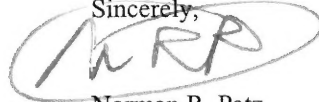
> This plea, uttered over two millenia ago by the prophet Malachi, speaks to us as
> powerfully today as it did then. We have gathered today to remember a horrible
> time, a crime perpetrated on innocent Jews, but a crime against all humanity as
> well - we have gathered, many peoples of diverse backgrounds, with a common
> interest that we share, never again, to any group, anywhere.

> For of what use will the solemn remembering be if we, the children of the one Father,
> are not moved to stop treacherous demagogues who want to separate peoples and
> set them to killing one another? Auschwitz, Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Kosovo -
> does the place matter? Have we not all one Father, one who created us? Let us vow
> not to deal treacherously, not to be separated, to seek peace.

On a personal note, if I may, can I respectfully point out that the reference in the benediction to
"those who separate" might apply to Professor Jeffries, whose denials of provocative anti-Jewish
sentiment are at variance with the record. From that standpoint, his being retained by the Council
as an advisor sends a signal contrary to the spirit of the Holocaust observance. I suppose one
might still be able to defend the move if he had the requisite expertise, but I understand that the
Ghananian community in Newark is upset at his appointment.

I hope you will not regard my initiative in this political matter as intrusive; I feel the two events -
the wonderful observance and the unfortunate hiring -- cannot be separated.

Sincerely,

[handwritten signature]

Norman R. Patz
Rabbi

[handwritten note: Blind copy F.Y.I.]